

RESOLUTION NO. 114
The Rev. Dr. Robert Charles Scott

WHEREAS, The Rev. Dr. Robert Charles Scott is a native of Monticello, Mississippi, and currently a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, and is the son of Mrs. Dorothy Newsome (formerly Scott) and Mr. Robert Funches; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Scott preached his initial sermon at the age of 11; he was licensed at the age of 12 and ordained at the age of 18 at the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Monticello; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Scott is a 1991 honors graduate of Jackson State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Pre-law; he graduated from Duke University Divinity School in 1994 with a Master of Divinity; Dr. Scott earned his doctoral degree (at the age of 29) from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, in December 1997 under the mentorship of the Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker; he authored his doctoral dissertation on “The Dialectical Method of Preaching as Pastoral Care in the African American Church” and graduated with high distinction and was the youngest in his class; and

WHEREAS, in July 1999, with 94 percent of the vote, a call was extended to Dr. Scott to become the pastor of Central Baptist Church; he was installed April 16, 2000, with Dr. James Whittico and Sister Karen Drake co-chairing the event; Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker preached the installation service; and

WHEREAS, Central Baptist Church is the second oldest African-American Baptist church in St. Louis; since Pastor Scott’s arrival, Central increased to two worship services with an average attendance of 850-900 persons between both services; the church’s congregation now numbers more than 2,000 disciples, and its finances have increased more than 200 percent, from \$475,000 in 2000 to \$1.5 million for fiscal 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Pastor Scott led Central to purchase the 24,000-square-foot warehouse at 2800 Washington, which increased the church’s footprint by one-third; in March 2007, a tornado severely damaged the Central Baptist church sanctuary and educational building; the renovation project was a \$2.7 million endeavor that catapulted Central into a 21st-century, state-of-the-art facility for worship; God is truly to be praised for the wonderful things He has done; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Scott spearheaded the formation of COEUR (Community Organization to Engage, Uplift, and Restore), a nonprofit that expands the church’s ability to serve the St. Louis community in additional and meaningful ways, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Scott was one of the key organizers of A Call to Oneness, which organized over 20,000 African American men to march against violence and crime in St. Louis in June 2008; and

WHEREAS, it is his desire to be a vessel of God and to declare to a broken humanity that God the potter wants to put us back together again; it is in this spirit that Dr. Scott reluctantly departs Central Baptist Church to become the senior pastor at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Central Baptist disciples and the St. Louis community bid him fond farewell.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to thank the Rev. Dr. Robert C. Scott for his years of service to Central Baptist Church, our community and our world. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 16th day of September, 2016, by:

The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman, 19th Ward

Adopted the 16th day of September, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O’Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen